

Fort Lauderdale

Doors Open
To New Riverside
Community Center



Refresh Your
Life-saving
Skills



Performance Schedule,
Activities & more



April/May 2004

A
community
newsletter
published
by the
City
of
Fort
Lauderdale



Also In This Issue...

Police Launch Motorized Scooter Safety Campaign; Parking Enhancements In Place; NCIP/BCIP Grant Cycle Opens and more.



Mayor's Message

Jim Naugle

City Commission

Vice Mayor
Carlton B. Moore, District III

Commissioner
Christine Teel, District I

Commissioner
Dean J. Trantalis, District II

Commissioner
Cindi Hutchinson, District IV

On A New Course Of Action

Six months have gone by since the adoption of the City's tax rate for 2004. If you believe what you read in the newspaper, you would come to the conclusion that the City is in a crisis. Is it really? The facts show the City is experiencing a minor course of correction.

Has spending been cut? The truth is that our budget calls for spending \$9 million dollars more than last year. We had to lay off 17 workers. Recently, the City of Orlando recently had layoffs of more than 150 employees. We did not lay off a single police officer or firefighter. The 17 represent less than 1% of the City's workforce.

This year, our budget was compromised because of unauthorized expenditures by our former city manager, increased pension costs, and a health insurance benefit that was too generous. Acting City Manager Alan Silva recom-

mended a plan to slow down the spiraling increases we have been experiencing in recent years.

We do not have a revenue problem, but a spending problem. With year after year of tax increases, we have become a high cost City. In a comparison of the 10 largest cities in Florida, Fort Lauderdale has the highest property taxes per capita of any city.

Most of our spending goes for employee compensation which is more than 70%. The City has a high quality workforce. The average city employee receives salary and benefits of more than \$71,000 with police officers averaging \$91,000 and firefighter-paramedics \$94,000. Most of our employees are working hard to provide the services we require. We appreciate the job that they do and in order to continue to compensate our workforce, we must find ways to

operate more efficiently. In some cases, we will consider reducing the number of employees we have.

The City's workforce has grown 20% during a time when our population has increased by 10%. Many cities across America are privatizing some government operations. Most importantly, the City needs to implement a compensation system that is based on performance and not on seniority.

Fort Lauderdale has a strong economy and should have a financially strong municipal government that can provide quality services at a reasonable cost. I appreciate the assistance of the City Commission, our employees, and our citizens in guiding our City through this course correction that we are implementing. I welcome any comments or suggestions that you have. I can be reached at **954-828-5004** or mayorjames@aol.com.

NCIP, BCIP Grant Programs Kick Off Grant Cycles

The Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program (NCIP) and the Business Capital Improvement Program are gearing up to open another year of grant cycles. The grant applications will be accepted from May 3, 2004 through July 29, 2004.

Neighborhoods are encouraged to apply for up to \$35,000 of matching funds for the construction of capital improvements that beautify neighborhoods and enhance overall quality of life. Business associations may apply for up to \$25,000 in matching funds for capital improvements. Interested applicants are highly encouraged to attend one of two pre-application/orientation workshops scheduled for May 10th and 12th. Meetings will take

place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on both dates at the Beach Community Center, located at 3351 NE 33rd Ave. Two technical assistance workshops are scheduled for May 17 and 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Beach Community Center. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend one of the technical assistance workshops as an opportunity to meet with City engineers and architects to explore possible projects, cost estimates, and discuss specific project details.

For information on the NCIP or BCIP programs, contact **Marisol Lotito**, Program Manager, at **(954) 828-8954**, or email Mlotito@fortlauderdale.gov.

If you would like this publication in an alternate format (large print, audio tape), contact Leslie Backus at (954) 828-4747 or email lbackus@fortlauderdale.gov.

Acting City Manager's Message



Alan A. Silva

Looking Ahead To Fiscal Year 2004-05

Continued fiscal discipline is still the requirement of the day, as the first half of fiscal year 2004 came to a close.

Last month, a budget workshop provided City staff and Commissioners with the opportunity to review lessons learned from the past and reach consensus on a budget approach. Commissioners received input from City staff regarding the upcoming budget process. In turn, City staff received guidance and directives from City Commissioners to assist in the development of the fiscal year 2004-05 budget. At this time, I would like to share some of those outcomes.

During the budget process, some City divisions, programs and services will be reviewed based on continuing need as directed by the City Commission. By justifying the expenditures and showing costs of individual services, staff and City

Commissioners will be able to allocate resources based on City priorities.

The Commission reviewed the City's two-year, \$16 million fiscal sustainability plan which is expected to generate \$12 million in savings, revenue enhancements, and reallocation of resources during the current fiscal year. Having the majority of these measures already in place will enable the City to realize \$16 million in savings over the course of a full budget year. Several Departments, including Police, City Attorney, Administrative Services and Fire-Rescue, chose to defer significant portions of savings into the upcoming fiscal year. For those departments, increased fiscal discipline and scrutiny will be required during the budget process.

To be fiscally responsible, the City is working to reestablish a reserve level, create a stabilization fund, and ensure an ade-

quate contingency amount. Looking ahead, the City will need to establish a realistic budget that does not rely on one-time revenues or deferrals.

Since the budget workshop, several other financial concerns have arisen, which may have profound implications on this year's and next year's budgets. It is uncertain whether we can attain the \$1.5 million in normal employee turnover that we assumed in this year's budget. However, further reductions in overtime should help offset the shortfall.

Due to actuarial calculations, the independent audit for fiscal year 2002-03 shows a deficit from the City's insurance accounts has risen from \$15 million to \$21 million. It will take more time, effort and stringent financial accountability by all in order to provide a foundation for a sustainable financial future.

Online Access To Charter Revision Board

The City of Fort Lauderdale Charter Revision Board is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the City's Charter.

Citizens are encouraged to provide input, comments and feedback to the board on proposed changes that may affect how the City of Fort Lauderdale operates and governs in the future.

Interested citizens are encouraged to review the charter which is available online and forward suggestions or comments.

To review the charter, log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov and select the *Charter Revision Board* link on the home page. To send a message to the board, a form is located at the bottom of the Charter Revision Board home page. At the conclusion of the review process, the Charter Revision Board will present its recommendations to the City Commission. Recommendations

approved by the City Commission will need to be placed on the ballot for voter approval. Currently, recommendations for changes to the City Charter are expected to be placed on the ballot for the November 2004 election.

For more information, contact the City Attorney's Office at (954) 828-5037 or log on to the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov.

Please provide the following contact information:

First Name: (required)

Last Name: (required)

Title:

Work Phone: () - -

Home Phone: () - -

E-mail Address: (required)

Message to the board:

Type or paste your message to the board here

NOTE: When you submit this form, your message will be sent to ALL board members.

Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.fortlauderdale.gov



The African-American Research Library and Cultural Center was a Community Appearance Award winner in the 2003 Institutional category.

City To Award Best Properties of 2004



Shown above is Sunrise Harbor, Winner of the 2001 Multifamily Highrise category.

Photo courtesy of Smith Aerial Photo

Some of the city's most appealing properties will be highlighted at the 26th Annual Community Appearance Awards on Friday, May 14. The event will take place at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center located at 2650 Sistrunk Blvd. A cocktail reception will begin at 6 pm. followed by the awards ceremony. Property owners, civic groups, homeowner associations, contractors, builders and architects who submit new construction and renovation projects will vie for a bronze plaque and the title of Community Appearance Award. The Community Appearance Awards recognize projects in a variety of categories that include waterfront, parks and recreation, commercial, multifamily residential, single family residential, landscape/garden, special projects and retail. Event ticket prices are \$20 when purchased in advance and \$25 if purchased the evening of the event.



Shown above is the 2002 Property of the Year

For more information or to become an awards sponsor, please call (954) 828-4741.



City's Volunteer Corps Perks Up Esplanade Park

City residents of all ages took to Esplanade Park to perk up the appearance of this waterfront site.

Esplanade Park is a favorite attraction among residents and visitors to Fort Lauderdale for its setting along the New River, and its interactive navigational and meteorological exhibits. Esplanade Park is located at the foot of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts along Riverwalk and has been the site of many festivities for more than two decades. Through the years, time, weather and community events have taken a toll on the park requiring a little maintenance. More than 40 Citizen Volunteer Corps members stepped up to the challenge by cleaning the fountains until they sparkled, adding new plants and painting. By the end of the day they returned the park to its original state as an asset along Florida's Most Beautiful Mile - Riverwalk.



By participating in the Citizens Volunteer Corps project, officially recognized Fort Lauderdale neighborhoods earned 500 points toward requirements needed for the upcoming Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program (NCIP) grant year. In addition, students who participated earned hours toward fulfilling their school's community service requirements.

Established by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission, the Citizens Volunteer Corps is comprised of volunteer residents who serve on an "as needed" basis to address non-emergency, citywide projects that positively impact the community and enhance quality of life. Since its inception, more than 800 Fort Lauderdale residents have participated in a variety of projects including: painting the City's world famous beach wavewall; painting a larger-than-life tropical mural on the wall at Sunrise Boulevard and I-95; painting and repairing the homes of two City residents to help bring the properties up to code; and painting and landscaping the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society building. To become a volunteer for future projects, log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov/neighborhoods/index.htm and select the *Sign up For the Citizens Volunteer Corps* link; call **Pam Brown**, Assistant to the Fort Lauderdale City Commission, at (954) 828-5005 or e-mail PBrown@fortlauderdale.gov.



Citizens To Identify ADA Accessibility Sidewalk Improvements

The City of Fort Lauderdale invites citizens to identify and request accessibility improvements for the disabled to public sidewalks and intersections located within the City's jurisdiction and control. The City will include such locations on a prioritized list of sidewalk and intersection locations that require improvements to meet American's With Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

For more information, please contact Barbara Howell, Engineering Technician, at (954) 828-5734 or email Bhowell@fortlauderdale.gov. Notices may also be mailed to:

Barbara Howell, Engineering Technician, City of Fort Lauderdale
100 N. Andrews Avenue, 4th Floor
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

New CERT Classes, CERT Refresher Courses Scheduled

The next eight-week CERT class, free to Fort Lauderdale residents, is scheduled for May 5 through June 23. The classes are from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and are offered at the Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Training and Special Operations Bureau, located at 2000 NE 16th Street.

Registration is being accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Additional information may also be found on the City's web site at www.fortlauderdale.gov/fire-rescue/cert.htm

CERT Refresher Courses Scheduled

CERT graduates can polish their life-saving skills through two continuing education refresher courses. The courses, free to CERT members, will be held at the Fire-Rescue Training and Special Operations Bureau located at 2000 NE 16th St.

A **Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation Refresher (CPR) Course** will take place on Saturday, May 8 from 8 a.m. to noon for renewal of the CPR Heartsaver cards and certificates. Life-saving skills including rescue breathing and CPR will be reviewed, as well as recognizing and responding to respiratory or cardiac emergencies.

A **Radio/Rapid Impact Assessment Refresher Course** will take place on Monday, May 17 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. to review radio equipment and radio channel use during an emergency or disaster situation. There will also be a review of tools

used to reflect and report the observed damage in a specific geographical area.

CERT Coordinator Meeting Scheduled

The Domestic Preparedness and Emergency Management Bureau of the Fort Lauderdale Fire-Rescue Department has launched an enhanced concept of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

Designated CERT team coordinators are requested to attend a meeting on Wednesday, May 19th from 7 to 9 p.m. at the new Fire-Rescue Department headquarters, located at 528 NW 2nd Street, 3rd Floor conference room, to receive information regarding changes to the program.

This meeting will provide an overview and explanation of enhancements to the CERT team program, CERT team captain/member area assignments. The meeting will also highlight CERT team member radio base station, mobile communication expectations and new responsibilities for CERT team members.

To Register

To register for any of the CERT courses and CERT Coordinator Meeting, please contact Judy Johnson at **954-828-6800** or e-mail jjohnson@fortlauderdale.gov.



Teen Career Fair Set For April 22

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation will host the 7th Annual Teen Career Fair on Thursday, April 22 at the Mizell Cultural Center, located at 1409 N.W. 6 St.

Teens ages 16 to 19 are invited to attend between the hours of 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. for an afternoon of professional

development. The primary goal of the fair is to expose teens to a variety of career choices as well as train teens on valuable life skills such as interviewing, dressing professionally, communicating with confidence, writing resumes and planning for their future. A variety of community leaders and mentors will

serve as guest speakers.

Local businesses interested in making a difference in the lives of teens can sign up to participate. To sign up, contact **Barbara Barber** in the Parks and Recreation Department by phone, **(954) 828-8945**, or email: BBarber@fortlauderdale.gov.

Community Members Rank East CAP Goals

At an East Community Area Planning (CAP) forum held last month, more than 60 community members ranked 11 goals that may potentially shape the future of their communities.

The goals, which were originally crafted by City staff and the Community Leadership Committee (CLC), were developed from comments, input and feedback obtained from citizens who participated in previous CAP workshops and forums. Strategies and objectives were also presented by CLC members for achieving these goals. The top five goals ranked in order of preference are:

1. Preserve neighborhood character through compatible land use and design;
2. Preserve, retain, and expand new opportunities for the marine industry and related uses, respectively;
3. Reduce cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods and improve traffic flow on major arterials;

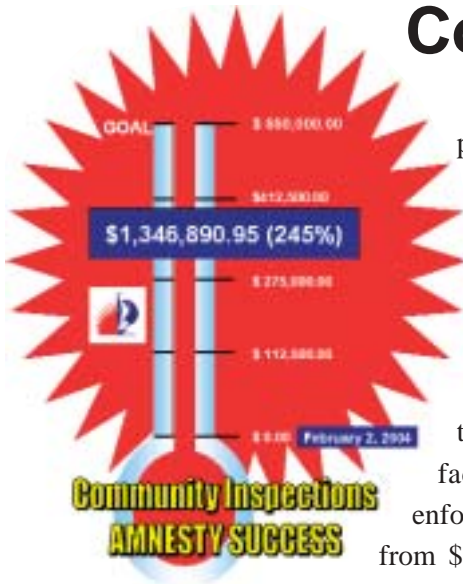
4. Create a comprehensive open space system;
5. Develop a unified vision.

The next step in the CAP process will fine-tune the East CAP Area Implementation Document in preparation for presentation to the City Commission anticipated by early summer. For updates or more information, log on to the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/cap, or contact the CAP office by phone (954) 828-8980 or email (cap@fortlauderdale.gov).

The East Area is bounded on the north by Commercial Blvd., on the west by Federal Highway (U.S. 1), on the south by the City's Corporate Limits (SR 84), and on the east by the Intracoastal Waterway.



Code Fine Amnesty Program Exceeds Goal



An initiative that was meant to save 30 public safety positions resulted in a positive reinforcement of City staff teamwork and community pride.

The Code Fine Amnesty Program, which ran from February 2 - March 1, 2004, offered eligible property owners the opportunity to settle their debts with the City by paying only 25 percent of the face value of the outstanding code enforcement fine or lien. Settlements ranged from \$5 to \$53,362.50 for such violations as leaving a derelict automobile in front of a home to working without a permit for 613 days.

The initiative raised in excess of \$1.3 million dollars, an amount that more than doubled the program's \$550,000 goal to save 30 Public Safety Aide positions. The Public Safety Aides, who play an important role in the City's efforts to ensure the safety and protection of its residents and visitors, were facing the possibility of being laid off recently. By retaining the Public Safety Aides, Fort Lauderdale's police officers can spend more time on the streets addressing community concerns. The surplus of funds collected will be earmarked for the City's General Fund in an effort to begin rebuilding its critically needed reserve levels.

More than 50 staff members in the City's Community Inspections Division worked tirelessly throughout the month of February to carry out the multi-faceted program. Staff members researched cases, met with property owners to bring their prop-

erties up to compliance, walked owners through the permitting process, made hundreds of follow-up phone calls, tracked money being received, updated databases and performed countless other duties to ensure the program's success.

Every staff member had a function and they went above and beyond the call of duty to work with the community in getting 583 cases into compliance, said **Lori Milano**, Director of Community Inspections Division. In addition to saving jobs, the Code Fine Amnesty Program ultimately saved the City time and money as well as improved the appearance of neighborhoods.

By resolving those cases, code inspectors do not have to return to those properties and can concentrate on other areas of concern. Additionally, the City will save time by not having to pursue as many properties for collection and foreclosure - a task that requires more time and money.

It was refreshing to see how staff and the community came forward to make the program a success, said **Verna Hayles**, a Service Clerk who worked with each case. Some customers got to know us on a first name basis, while others offered kind thank you cards along with their payments in appreciation for staff efforts.

A tremendous amount of teamwork and cooperation was also exhibited by numerous City Departments and Divisions and the Ad Hoc Committee established to assist with logistics and make recommendations on program strategies and techniques. The Ad Hoc Committee was comprised of civic leaders, community activists and city staff. Committee members staffed two phone banks and volunteered countless hours of their time and energy to make the program a success.

WaterWorks 2011 Projects Taking Shape



The *WaterWorks* 2011 Program modernizes the City's water and wastewater infrastructure through the investment of \$550 million in capital improvements.

With the first sewer project officially completed and other projects on the verge of breaking ground throughout the City, an increased amount of information and outreach will make its way to the community.

Although the *WaterWorks* 2011 Program is less than two years underway, the peak of project activity will occur during mid-2004 and 2005. During this time, more than 100 projects totaling more than \$374 million will be in the design or construction phase. While not all planned projects will directly impact residents or entire neighborhoods, the magnitude of utility infrastructure improvements that will occur

throughout the City is innovative, and unprecedented for a city of this size.

Here is what neighborhood and civic associations, residents, property owners and businesses can expect:

- * *WaterWorks* 2011 design and construction managers will attend association meetings to answer questions and keep residents informed during the different phases of their projects.

- * Direct mailings and door hangers, project fact sheets and brochures outlining the description, location, and duration of a specific project, will be distributed.

- * Program updates and benefits can be accessed online by visiting www.waterworks2011.com.

- * Citizens can call the 24-hour Call Center at **(954) 522-2604** to receive details on a specific project.

The Miami Road Sanitary Sewer Construction Project is officially complete.

Property owners in the Miami Road area have been notified and must connect to the new sewer system by April 30, 2004. Connecting to the sanitary sewer system requires a five-step process:

1. Pay the connection fee to the City's Treasury Division, 100 N Andrews Ave.;
2. Obtain a payment receipt or copy of executed Promissory Note and Lien on Property from the Treasury Division;
3. Obtain a City plumbing permit at the City's Construction Services Bureau, 300 NW 1st Avenue;
4. Connect to the new sewer lateral at your property line by hiring a plumbing contractor or doing the work yourself; once connected;
5. Properly abandon the septic tank as described in the Sanitary Sewer Connection How-To Guide available by calling the 24-hour Call Center at **(954) 522-2604**.



Aquatic Center Offers Mermaid Club For Kids

Join us at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex, 501 Seabreeze Blvd., for a new exciting kids program - The Mermaid Club - Sunday, April 25th.

This interactive story and sing-a-long show, led by Mermaid Susan with a manatee theme, promotes water and manatee safety with fun and safe aquatic activities for children.

The Mermaid Club offers a one-hour supervised session in the water and pool deck for children and parents, complete with mermaid and mer-boy costumes for use by each child during the program. Parents must be present for the entire program.

Certified Lifeguards will also be present. Additionally, life-jackets are provided for non-swimmers and children under age seven. Each child will receive a free Mermaids Talk on Shellphones CD.

Parents and children can pick from one of two sessions:

Noon to 1 p.m., or
1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost of the program is \$20 per child. Price includes the use of costumes. A \$10 deposit is required with a reservation. Remaining balance is due the day of show. Parking at the complex is \$1 per hour. To register call **(954) 828-4580**.

New Center Opens Doors To New Activities

The Charles and Irene Radford Community Center, located at 500 S.W. 11th Ave. in Riverside Park, will open its doors on April 17 with a day of fun for the entire family.

Children can get their hands on arts and crafts, games, an Arbor Day celebration with free tree giveaway and more. Opening ceremonies starting at 10 a.m. will open the doors to the 3,300 square foot facility designed to meet the needs of the community.

The new facility features a large multi-purpose room perfectly suited for community gatherings, a warming kitchen, office space, storage space and a unique 702 square-foot covered outdoor activity area.

The construction at Riverside Park is a part of the City of Fort Lauderdale's \$35 million Parks Bond Program in conjunction with funding received from a Challenge Grant in the amount of \$441,370 from the Broward County Safe Parks Bond Referendum.

"The facility will serve as a great asset to the community providing a common ground for civic and recreational activities," said **Vince Gizzi**, Special Facilities Superintendent.

For more information about the groundbreaking ceremony, please contact the Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation office at **(954) 828-PARK (7275)**.



National Meets Come To Aquatic Complex

It's the chance of a lifetime to observe top swimmers and divers as they compete for national titles.

This year, as Fort Lauderdale celebrates a sparkling 75 years of swimming, the Aquatic Complex will serve as host to the YMCA National Short Course Swimming and Diving Championships Friday, April 2 through Thursday, April 8; and the YMCA Masters National Swimming Championships Thursday, April 15 through Sunday, April 18.

With more than 200 teams competing for titles in 42 events, the YMCA National Short Course Swimming and Diving event is traditionally the largest youth swimming national championship in the United States. There are more than 1,300 swimmers between the ages of 12 and 18. Unique to the YMCA Nationals is the opening ceremony, April 5 from 5:15 to 6 p.m. The ceremony features a parade of athletes, the YMCA flag presentation and devotionals. Event tickets are \$25 for eight sessions, \$5 for preliminaries and finals, sold separately. Children under 11 years of age are half price. Team practice days April 2 through April 4 are free to public spectators.

With more than 800 adult athletes (ages 19 to 91), 90 teams will compete for titles in 44 events during the YMCA Masters National Swimming Championships. The timed final competition for each day begins April 15 at 8 a.m. and is expected to conclude by 3 p.m. Local athletes from tri-county area teams will compete for the West Broward YMCA. The remaining participants are from the Midwest and Eastern states. Admission for spectators is free. Parking is available at surrounding municipal lots along the beach and Birch Road/Las Olas Bridge. For more information about YMCA National events or on-line results, please visit: ymcaswimminganddiving.org or www.fortlauderdale.gov/flac.

The Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex is a City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation facility, home to the Fort Lauderdale Swim Team, the Fort Lauderdale Dive Team and the International Swimming Hall of Fame. Since 1965, when the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex opened its doors, the complex has witnessed 10 world records while serving as host to thousands of local, national and international meets.

Presenting The Roots of Cajun, Zydeco Culture

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department presents the 12th Annual Fort Lauderdale Cajun/Zydeco Crawfish Festival May 7th - 9th at the Fort Lauderdale Festival Site, located at 1201 NW 55th St.

Complete with a star studded line-up, an array of activities, and plenty of spicy Cajun food, this Cajun/Zydeco musical food festival promises pure family fun. Start by letting the music draw you in as some of the top Cajun and Zydeco musicians

For more information, call the Crazee Crawfish Hotline at 954-828-5934.

Festival Hours

May 7th - 4:30 p.m. - 11:30 pm

May 8th, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 pm

May 9th, 10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Discount Advance Tickets

(prior to May 7)

One-day Pass \$15

Two-Day Pass \$23

Three-Day Pass \$28

Discount tickets on sale at select sites, for listings log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov

Ticket Prices At the Gate

One Day Pass \$20

Two-Day Pass \$30

Three-Day Pass \$40

Tickets are available online at

www.fortlauderdale.gov

Tickets available by phone at

1-866-337-8849

take to the stages.

Don't miss Musicians in the Kitchen, a cooking demonstration tent where the performers will prepare their signature dishes.

Plenty of food is available throughout the weekend, including the signature Crawfish Boil, where over 35,000 pounds of the tasty crustaceans are boiled. Local restaurants and chefs serve up their best recipes of red beans and rice, crawfish bisque, boudin and andouille sausage, po' boys, etouffee, and mouth-watering desserts.

Think you've got the greatest gumbo? Put your

dish to the test at the Gumbo Cook-Off. Adults can also enter the crawfish eating contest and join in the official New Orleans Watermelon Sacrifices. Burn calories with free dance lessons throughout the weekend under the Main Stage tent, teaching basic and advanced Zydeco and Waltz and the latest moves. No partner needed.

When you are ready to sit it out, head for the Bayou Corner, a history and cultural area, featuring lectures, storytelling, and workshops conducted by national performers and Cajun historians.

The Back Woods Acoustic Stage, nestled in the woods, takes you back in time to a simpler life where the roots of Cajun and Zydeco all began. A wide array of games, contests and activities will entertain children of all ages. The Crazee Kid's Zone will feature crafts, special performances by the artists, a children's watermelon sacrifice, dancing around the May pole and dance lessons.

Main Stage

Friday, May 7

6-7 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

7-8:30 p.m. Chris Ardoin & Double Clutchin'

8:30-9:30 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

9:30-11 p.m. Terrance Simien

Saturday, May 8

11 a.m. - noon Cajun Dance Lessons

Noon-1 p.m. Boxed Wine Jubilee

1-2 p.m. Cajun Dance Lessons

2-3:30 p.m. Hadley Castille & the Sharecropper Cajun Band

3:30-4:30 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

4:30-6 p.m. Sean Ardoin-n-Zydekool

Saturday, May 8 Continued

6-7 p.m. Cajun Dance Lessons

7-8:30 p.m. Steve Riley

8:30-9:30 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

9:30-11:30 p.m. Chubby Carrier & the Bayou Swamp Band & Carrier Family Jam

Sunday, May 9

Noon - 1 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

1-2:30 p.m. Roy Carrier & the Night Rockers

2:30-3:30 p.m. Cajun Dance Lessons

3:30-5 p.m. Savoy Family Band

5-6 p.m. Zydeco Dance Lessons

6-8 p.m. Ardoin Family

Back Woods Acoustic Stage

Friday, May 7

6-7 p.m. Le Band Feufollet

8:30-9:30 p.m. - Dora

Saturday, May 8

1 -2 p.m. Herman Fuselier

Cultural Music Experience

3:30-4:30 p.m. Red Stick Ramblers

6 - 7 p.m. Savoy Family

Saturday, May 8 Continued

8:30 - 9:30 p.m. Bois Sec, Lawrence and Dexter Ardoin

Sunday, May 9

Noon-1p.m. Marce Lacouture & David Greely Home Music and Old Ballads

2:30-3:30 p.m. Fiddle Jam

5 p.m. Steve Riley

Crazee Crawfish Stage

Friday, May 7

6-7 p.m. N'awlins Po Boyz

7-8 p.m. Porchdogs

8-9 p.m. Lawrence Ardoin & Tradition Creole w/Ed Poullard

Saturday, May 8

Noon-1 p.m. Gris Gris

1-2 p.m. Children's Watermelon Sacrifice

2-3 p.m. Dora & the Zydeco Bad Boyz

3-4 p.m. Crawfish Eating Contest

4-5 p.m. La Band Feufollet

5-6 p.m. Children's Watermelon

Saturday, May 8 Continued

Sacrifice

6-7 p.m. Dexter Ardoin & the Creole Ramblers

7-8 p.m. Crawfish Eating Contest

8-9 p.m. Marcie Lacouture

Sunday, May 9

Noon-1 p.m. Red Stick Ramblers

1-2 p.m. Children's Watermelon Sacrifice

2-3 p.m. Dikki Du & the Zydeco Crew

3-4 p.m. Crawfish Eating Contest

4-5 p.m. Marcie Lacouture

Louisiana Swamp Stage

Friday, May 7

5-6 p.m. Gris Gris

7-8 p.m. Dexter Ardoin & the Creole Ramblers

8-9 p.m. Adult Watermelon Sacrifice

9-10 p.m. Hadley Castille & the Sharecropper Cajun Band

Saturday, May 8

11 a.m.-Noon N'awlins PoBoyz

1-2 p.m. Lawrence Ardoin & Tradition Creole w/Ed Poullard

3-4 p.m. Porchdogs

5-6 p.m. Dikki Du & the Zydeco Crew

Saturday, May 8 Continued

7-8 p.m. Red Stick Ramblers

8-9 p.m. Adult Watermelon Sacrifice

9-10 p.m. Sean Ardoin-n-Zydekool

Sunday, May 9

11-noon Boxed Wine Jubilee

1-2 p.m. Chris Ardoin & Double Clutchin'

3-4 p.m. La Band Feufollet

4-5 p.m. Adult Watermelon Sacrifice

5-6 p.m. Dora & the Zydeco Bad Boyz

Bayou Corner

Friday, May 7

7-8:30 p.m. Herman Fuselier with Terrance & Cynthia Simien

Creole Culture and the

History of Zydeco

9-10 p.m. Chris & Sean Ardoin

Saturday, May 8

Noon-1 p.m. Herman Fuselier

Cultural Demonstrations

2-3:30 p.m. Dennis Stroughmatt N.

Saturday, May 8 Continued

American French Creole Roots

4:30-6 p.m. Hadley Castille

7-8:30 p.m. Carrier Family

Sunday, May 9

1-2:30 p.m. Herman Fuselier

Cultural Demonstration

3:30-5 p.m. Ardoin Family

6-7:30 p.m. Acoustic Guitar Workshop w/ Josh Caffery & friends

Tennis Anyone? Tennis For Everyone!

Anyone can do it ... children, senior citizens, even out-of-shape former couch potatoes. It's tennis. With May proclaimed as National Tennis Month, now is the perfect time to see firsthand what tennis has to offer. At the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center, located at 701 NE 12th Ave. in Holiday Park, you'll find workshops, classes, tournaments and much more. Here are a few highlights.

Tennis For Every Level

Whether you're looking for a basic understanding of tennis or you're interested in becoming a seasonal coach for both children and adults, the **USTA Coaches Development Workshop** on May 28 is designed to provide a meaningful and practical hands-on workshop. The workshop runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes lunch for a cost of \$35 if registered before May 10th and \$50 after that date. Participants will come away with a solid foundation for effective team practices, the games based approach to coaching, teaching large groups, proper use of teaching aids and free equipment. Limited space is available, so don't hesitate to reserve your spot by calling **(954) 828-5378**.

For the Competitive Tennis Player of All Ages

Mark your calendars for May 8th for a day of tennis that you will never forget. The **Annual Ladder Championships** is a season ending event for JETC Ladder members. The Women's Ladder matches start at 11 a.m., followed by the Men's events at 1 p.m. The Youth vs. Experience Match, offering a cross generational tournament, will take place from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. This fun, social daylong event will track results and end the day with a barbecue at the tennis center sponsored by the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center Development Fund and the Broward Tennis Association. For more information, call **(954) 828-5378**.

Mark your calendars for May 21-27 for the **USTA National Men's Open, Women's Open, Mixed Clay Court Championships**. Entry in this tournament is open to all USTA members and must be submitted by May 13. This high level tournament is for the serious tennis player where winners may qualify for wild cards to future professional tournaments. Call **(954) 828-5378** to register.

Serve Up Some Tennis To Kids

Give your kids the benefit of tennis during their summer vacation. The summer tennis camp will take place June 14 - July 16 and run 9 a.m. to noon. The camp is geared for youth ages 6 to 16 for all levels. Camp costs are \$90 per week for residents and \$100 per week for nonresidents. For more information, contact the Jimmy Evert Tennis Center at **(954) 828-5378**.

5 Great Reasons To Play Tennis

Tennis serves up aces when it comes to providing a total aerobic, emotional and psychological workout. Consider the following benefits of tennis.

It's fun! This exhilarating sport helps develop high energy level while promoting positive characteristics including spontaneity, creativity, and adventurousness.

It's competitive! As an individual sport it builds self esteem, self discipline, mental focus.

It's social! As a lifetime sport it opens doors to positive social interaction among other players.

It's healthy! Tennis promotes aerobic fitness by burning fat and improving cardiovascular fitness.

It's relatively inexpensive! Most starter racquets cost less than \$100, balls cost \$2-3 per can, tennis shoes can run under \$50 and clothing requirements are shorts, t-shirt and tennis shoes.



Tennis On the Net

The Jimmy Evert Tennis Center is taking part in one of the largest marketing campaigns ever to introduce new players to tennis.

Through www.TennisWelcomeCenter.com potential players can enter their zip code and find out about introductory instructional programs offered near them. The Jimmy Evert Tennis Center (JETC) is one of the first in Florida to register and ultimately revolutionize the tennis industry.

There is a need to make the initial experience for new players better, said **Whitney Kraft**, Supervisor of the JETC. There are over 5 million Americans trying tennis each year, but less than 13 percent of new players know that new player programs exist in their own community. Research

shows that new players who go through a multi-session introductory program become committed, frequent players.

As a Tennis Welcome Center, the JETC joins a network of facilities offering affordable introductory multi-session tennis programs with certified instructors throughout the year, as well as promoting a healthy sport in a social setting. In turn, the JETC will receive free national and local exposure to thousands of potential new customers through www.tenniswelcomecenter.com; free discount racquet and ball programs; and free court banners, posters, manuals and more.



Police Push Moped Education Campaign

A trendy gift for kids has drawn safety and quality of life concerns in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Scooters equipped with either a small two-cycle gasoline engine or an electric motor and battery are a popular toy for children and a growing new mode of transportation for some adults throughout communities.

For the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department, these vehicles have been the subject of numerous complaints from citizens. Complaints include citizens witnessing violations made by riders disregarding traffic signs and signals; failing to yield to pedestrians; driving on sidewalks; operating in a bicycle lane; and driving at night without a headlight. The complaints also address the whining noise emitting from some of the more enhanced motorized scooters zipping around quiet neighborhoods.



Officer Michael Dodson demonstrates the pile of motorized scooters, many of which are damaged from accidents, that have been confiscated recently.

A motorized scooter is a motor vehicle and therefore, under the motor vehicle code requires an operator to have a valid driver's license.

"Our number one concern is careless operation among unlicensed children without regard for rules of the road," said Officer **Michael Dodson**.

"A child zipping past stop signs at 20 miles per hour is an accident waiting to happen," said Sgt. **Kevin Shults**.

Much of the problem stems from a lack of understanding from the buyer that a motorized

scooter is a motor vehicle and, therefore, under the motor vehicle code requires an operator to have a valid driver's license and a full understanding of the laws and safety issues that apply. The only exception is if the motorized scooter is operated on private property. Legally, dealers are not required to educate buyers on the statutes in place.

In response to these complaints, the police department has initiated a moped safety education campaign to promote awareness and enhance safety. Officers are visiting homeowner associations, schools, handing out flyers to moped operators and issuing warnings or citations or both for violations.

For the safety of the community, the police department reminds its citizens that it is illegal to operate a motorized scooter without a valid class E driver's license. Learner's permits are not accepted under state law as valid forms of licensing for operating a motorized scooter. Additionally, anyone operating a motorized scooter must obey all traffic laws. It is also illegal to operate a motorized scooter on a sidewalk. The only exception to the law is if the mopeds are driven on private property. Citizens violating these laws will be subject to numerous citations that can quickly add up to expensive fines which can start at \$44 for driving without a driver's license and go as high as \$200. The motorized scooter can also be confiscated.

For more information, contact Officer Dodson at (954) 828-6407.



Mark Your Calendars

Citizens Crime Alert of Fort Lauderdale, Inc. is a resource for citizens to gain information about public safety. The group meets on the first Monday of each month with the City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department. The meetings are held on the 8th floor of City Hall located at 100 N. Andrews Ave.



Mark your calendars for the next series of Citizens Crime Alert of Fort Lauderdale, Inc meetings.

May 3, 2004
Bomb Squad Robot

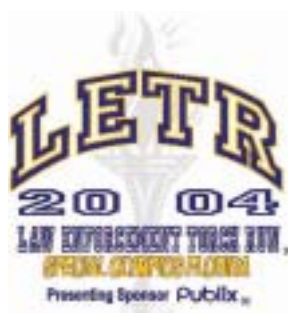
June 7, 2004
Hurricane Coordinator
Captain Kinsey

For additional information, or to become involved, contact Pat Mayers at (954) 763-7863 and leave your name and number, or attend a meeting and take applications back for your neighbors.

Police Take Steps To Support Special Olympians

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department is taking steps to raise funds for Special Olympics.

On Tuesday, April 27, the City of Fort Lauderdale police department will join other law enforcement officers from Florida to carry the Flame of Hope in the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Residents, businesses and organizations can support this annual charity by cheering their local community policing officer along the way as well as contribute through a variety of opportunities. A large number of City officers will participate by running a 12-mile leg expected to commence at 10 a.m. from the intersection of US-1 and Eller Drive, located just north of Griffin Road. The route will head north on US-1 to 17th Street, turn east toward the beach, cross the 17th Street Intracoastal Bridge to A-1-A (Fort Lauderdale Beach Boulevard). At this point, the route will proceed north on A-1-A to Sunrise Boulevard where it will head west to the Gateway intersection of US-1 and Sunrise Boulevard. From this point it will proceed north on US-1 until it reaches Pompano Beach where officers will then pass the torch to the corresponding agency. Citizens are encouraged to cheer their officer along the marked route. Be a supporter for \$25 or "Adopt a Cop" for \$50. T-shirts, tank tops and hats can be purchased for \$12 a piece. Various levels of corporate sponsorships are also available from ranging from \$100 to \$2,500. To make a donation or to purchase an item, contact **Sgt. Mark Furdon** at (954) 828-6420, or Broward County Special Olympics Coordinator Linda Mills at (954) 486-7464.



Police Praise Working Canines

Don't miss the Seventh Annual Paws for Applause tribute to working dogs on Saturday, April 10, at War Memorial Auditorium in Holiday Park.

Help raise money for Canine Companions of Independence, a national non-profit organization whose main goal is to raise and train dogs for disabled people. This fun and entertaining event features a show at 2 p.m. of Search and Rescue Dogs, Police K-9 Units, Frisbee dogs, and Canine Companions for Independence puppies and assistance dogs. Activities include a tour of the Fort Lauderdale Mounted Police Stables along with a Perfect Pet Picture Contest, raffles, exhibitors, vendors, and a silent auction. No personal pets are allowed on the premises of the event. Admission is \$5 per person. Children under 12 years of age are free. Tickets will be available at the door the day of the event starting at noon. Volunteer puppy-raisers of Canine Companions of Independence throughout the country raise and train these dogs for about a year providing food, veterinary care, and loving homes. The City of Fort Lauderdale Police personnel are strong supporters of this worthy cause. After 12 months, the volunteer puppy-raiser returns the dog to the nonprofit for advanced training after which they will be matched to a disabled person. For more information, please call the Paws for Applause Hot Line at (954) 562-9896.

Executive Airport Achieves Dramatic Decrease in Runway Incursions

For the past five years, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has placed an emphasis on reducing runway incursions (i.e., hazardous ground incidents involving aircraft, vehicles or pedestrians). In response to the FAA mandate, Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport has implemented several programs designed to reduce the number of runway incursions and surface incidents. The Airport's hard work is paying off!

During the past 12 months, only five runway incursions were reported at Executive Airport, an impressive 67% decrease from a high of 15 that were reported in 2002. Much of the Airport's success can be attributed to the work of the Runway Safety Action Team. The group, which includes Airport staff, FAA representatives, pilots, tenants and users, developed short and long-term action plans focusing on runway safety.

Executive Airport has carried out numerous action plan recommendations including: expansion of the Airport Operations Area Training Program, which annually trains more than 175 employees on proper ground vehicle operations and procedures; completion of a \$4 million Airfield Electrical System and Airfield Signage Rehabilitation project, which upgraded the airfield electrical system and replaced more than 300 signs; quarterly FAA pilot seminars to educate pilots on proper operational procedures; and implementation of a \$2 million Access and Security program to secure the airport's perimeter and limit unauthorized access. In addition, the Airport expanded its communication efforts by developing new runway and facility maps, a ground vehicle operations safety guide, diagrams of areas where repeat incidents have occurred, a sign and markings guide, and a new Airport newsletter.

At a recent meeting, the FAA gave Executive Airport high marks for the progress it has made in reducing runway incursions. As part of the meeting, the Airport recognized nearly 50 individuals who have maintained perfect safety records while operating ground vehicles. Awards were presented to 34 individuals with perfect safety records for at least 5 years; 12 individuals with 10-year flawless records; and three individuals, Noble Kurth from Noble Jet; Ron Schmidt and Tom Schmidt from Schmidt Aviation, who have maintained perfect safety records for at least 20 years. For more information, log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov/FXE.



Shown from left to right are Bonnie Schultz, FAA Air Traffic Control Mgr.; Anna Cohen, FAA Runway Safety Program Mgr.; William Caldwell, FAA Airway Facilities; Tom Schmidt, Schmidt Aviation; Dan Cilli, CTR Systems Analyst; Ron Schmidt, Schmidt Aviation; Gabe Bruno, FAA Flight Standard; Clara Bennett, Acting Airport Mgr.; Bob Barton, CTR Technical Analyst; BJ Ault, CTR Technical Analyst; Maria Sacco, FAA Air Traffic

The Right Parking Service Options

The right parking packs a lot of power in a community.

Meeting the parking needs of retail businesses involves creating an environment that promotes customer convenience. To promote this environment, the Parking Services Division has implemented user-friendly and efficient parking services at an affordable price.

Parking options that promote easy accessibility, high visibility, a sense of personal security and an adequate supply of parking at an affordable price are needed to serve business customers.

The City of Fort Lauderdale is continuously developing programs with the community that provide plenty of alternative methods of payment with accessible and user-friendly parking meters.



is \$55 and customers must purchase the SmartCard for \$10. Customers can purchase parking time for the SmartCard in increments of \$25 up to \$255. This in-car parking device may be used at most single space parking meters, municipal parking lots and municipal garages in Fort Lauderdale.

"With SmartPark, motorists pay for actual parking time only," said Assistant Parking Division Manager **John Hoelzle**.

"This state-of-the-art technology is a cashless operation that provides ease of use and comfort for our customers."

Paying for Parking the Earth-friendly Way

Most recently in a public/private partnership with the Las Olas Association, the Parking Services Division purchased four solar powered, pay and display multi-space meters for the H lot.



The H lot is a 101-space site located on the north side of east Las Olas Boulevard between S.E. 8th Avenue, S.E. 9th Avenue and S.E. 2nd Court.

The new meters provide the ability to pay with coins, bills, Visa or Mastercard credit cards, or SmartPark. The meters are expected to be operating and ready for use by April 1st.

Parking With SmartPark

The Parking Services Division has also introduced a new in-car parking meter that's sure to take the hassle out of your parking experience around town. SmartPark, a small pocket calculator-size electronic device, is now available for purchase.

The SmartPark device uses a SmartCard that's loaded with a prepaid amount of parking dollars. The smartcard is inserted into the SmartPark device, which is hung from the rear-view mirror. Once activated the SmartPark displays the parking time available on the smartcard.

An initial one-time refundable deposit for the SmartPark unit

Paying For Parking The Debit Way

By May 1st, Parking Services also hopes to introduce a pre-paid debit card concept, similar to that of gift cards, for those who use single space parking meters and don't want to carry a pocket full of change. With the Duncan Prepaid Debit Card, individuals can purchase a debit card pre-loaded in increments of \$25 up to \$100.

Single-spaced meters, currently located in the downtown business district and the beach area, are equipped with a slot for the Duncan Debit Card. The first time the card is inserted into the meter, the meter displays the card balance. For each time the card is subsequently inserted, the system will deduct the amount in increments of one hour as designated for that meter. For example, if you park in a single space meter that costs \$.75 cents per hour, each time the card is inserted after the balance has been displayed, \$.75 cents will be deducted.

"The prepaid debit card will alleviate the inconvenience of carrying a large amount of change especially in the Downtown, Las Olas business and beach areas," said **Darlene Pfeiffer**, Financial Administrator for the Parking Services Division.

In conjunction with the debit card, Parking Services Division is looking for businesses interested in serving as test sites for the sale of these cards. Interested businesses should contact Darlene Pfeiffer at (954) 828-3775.



New Building Services Center To Open By Summer

Plans are underway to transform and relocate the services found at the One Stop Shop into the Building Services Center.

In the next few months, preparations will take place to move the Construction Services Bureau, Code Enforcement, Occupational Licensing and Planning and Zoning into a spa-

cious and user-friendly facility located at 700 N.W. 19th Ave.

While no official move date has been set, plans are to make the transition by summer 2004. Updates will follow in upcoming issues and on the City's website (www.fortlauderdale.gov). For more information, contact **Kathye Reily** at (954) 828-4990.

Learn Creative Reuse In Home, Business On Earth Day



The business of recycling is changing the environment at workplaces, schools and homes throughout the country.

What we use and what we throw away has a direct impact on the environment and our natural resources. To drive home this important message, the City of Fort Lauderdale will celebrate Earth Day with two days of activities, workshops, demonstrations, environmental information and reusable giveaways. All activities will take place at City Hall, located at 100 N. Andrews Ave.

On Wednesday, April 21st, the City Hall southwest courtyard will set the stage for a demonstration of creative recycling. A local musician/artist, Jim Seidel, will transform every day products that are not typically recycled at the curb into an interactive sound sculpture. The live demonstration will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kids and adults are encouraged to view and work with the sculpture.

Tap into the kid in you and learn how easy it is to be green. On April 22nd, City Hall will host various displays and workshops between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Organizations including Kids Ecology Corps, Young At Art and the City of Fort Lauderdale Recycle Corp along with recycled art by Lisa Max.

Two free workshops will take place on the 8th floor of City Hall. *Create and Learn*, from 11 a.m. to noon turning recycled materials into creative arts and crafts. *Play to Learn*, from noon to 1 p.m., will demonstrate how recycled products can teach basic skills in math, science and language development.

Don't miss the free tree giveaway with City of Fort Lauderdale Urban Forrester Gene Dempsey. Also scheduled is a dynamic presentation, "Healthy Habits For Healthy H2O," by the Water and Wastewater Treatment Division of the Public Services Department Utilities Bureau.

Businesses can minimize waste through mainstream and creative recycling.

Typical products like, scraps or samples of tile, upholstery foam and fabrics, carpets, wallpaper, CD's, and more can be donated for reuse in a variety of ways and to several sites. Come to the Earth Day celebration to get more information on how to cut your disposal costs and help others.

Not sure how or what to donate? Contact Casey Eckels at (954) 828-5577 or email CEckels@fortlauderdale.gov.

Stormwater Management and Seasonal Planting

Clean water is everybody's business. When we use water on property or when it rains, pesticides, oils and other pollutants wash into our storm drains and water bodies.

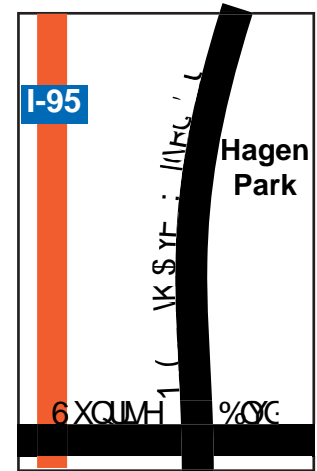


The benefits to preventing stormwater pollution include minimizing or avoiding the creation of pollutants; using materials more efficiently; minimizing health risks; avoiding costly clean-ups; and protecting the environment. To prevent stormwater pollution, there are healthy habits that residents, property owners and businesses can adopt into their

everyday tasks. For example, with April proclaimed as National Gardening Month followed by Keep America Beautiful in May, the City would like to remind you to plant wisely with this tip.

Encourage proper lawn management and landscaping. Xeriscaping not only provides a framework for water conservation, but provides an ideal setting for planning a practically maintenance-free and pesticide-free landscape. Log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov and type in the word "Xeriscape" in the search bar for a basic guide. For more information, call **Gene Dempsey**, the City's Urban Forrester, at (954) 828-5785 or email GDempsey@fortlauderdale.gov.

Hagen Park is located at 2020 Wilton Dr. in Wilton Manors. From I-95 take Sunrise Boulevard east to N.E. 4th Ave. and turn left (north). N.E. 4th Avenue turns into Wilton Drive. Proceed north on Wilton Drive to 20th Drive.



Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics Drop-Off Event Scheduled

City of Fort Lauderdale residents are invited to safely dispose of their household hazardous wastes and electronics on Sunday, April 18.

The event, sponsored by Broward County's Office of Integrated Waste Management and partnering cities, will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hagen Park, located at 2020 Wilton Dr. in Wilton Manors. With proof of residency, citizens can drop off hazardous household items at no charge. No business materials will be accepted at the drop-off.

The event aims to educate residents about the dangers associated with hazardous waste in our environment and encourages proper waste management.

Items that will be accepted are:

Paint	Pesticides
Used Motor Oil	Lawn Chemicals
Pool Chemicals	Propane Tanks
Fire Extinguishers	Household Cleaners
Automobile Batteries	

Items NOT accepted are:

Items generated by businesses
Explosives
Medical/Biohazardous Waste

Residents can also recycle old computers, televisions and old computer parts at a special electronics recycling station during the event. Keep products in their original containers, or clearly label if items are not in the original containers. Tightly seal all lids. If an item is leaking, place it in a large plastic container. For more information, call Broward County's Hotline at 954-765-4999.

Around Town

Learn, Play Bridge

Play Bridge with one of the largest Clubs in North America. The Fort Lauderdale Bridge Club, located in Holiday Park, offers a wide variety of games for all levels of play. Duplicate Bridge Masterpoint games take place Monday through Saturday at 12:30 and 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 1 p.m. Social Bridge is offered Monday and Thursday at 12 p.m. and on Saturday at 12:15 p.m. Games are \$3 for members and \$4 for non-members. Lunch and dinner are available prior to games for a small donation. Bridge lessons are offered for all levels of play. For more information, please call the Fort Lauderdale Bridge Club at (954) 761-1577.



Take A Walk On the Wild Side Exploring Snyder Park

In the heart of Fort Lauderdale sits a 93-acre park with ample picnic areas, recreational space and offerings to explore in this untouched natural setting.

Hike, fish and go boating with the Snyder Park Exploration Program. Learn about wildlife as expert speakers teach you about bird watching, wildlife endangerment and native plant identification. There is no other place like it where you can focus on the natural beauty and excitement that wildlife and nature has to offer. It's fun and educational for all ages. Nature exploration takes place on the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until noon. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children ages 6 to 12, and \$2 for groups of four or more. Children under the age of 5 are free. Snyder

Park is located at 3299 S.W. 4th Ave. For more information, call (954) 828-4585. Upcoming topics include:

April 10

Plants & Animals

May 8

Camping & Hiking

June 12

Fishing



Make It A Family Affair



Reserve the first Sunday of each month for the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., one can always find sun, fun, food, arts and crafts and five stages of great music. This concert series takes place in the heart of Downtown Fort Lauderdale along Fort Lauderdale's most scenic backdrop - the New River.

Here is a look at upcoming performers:

May 2

Esplanade Stage - Billy Marcus

BCPAArts Peck Stage - Miami Saxophone Quartet

Connie Hoffman Stage - David Feder & Salauza Azul

Rotary Gazebo - Gail Robin

Las Olas Riverfront Stage - Cheryl Fisher Quartet

June 6

Esplanade Stage - Eugene Grey & Company

BCPAArts Peck Stage - Mel Dancy and the Melting Pot

Connie Hoffman - Cous Cous

Las Olas Riverfront Stage - Pina Colada Latin Jazz

For more information about the SunTrust Sunday Jazz Brunch, log on to www.fortlauderdale.gov/festivals.

Summer Sports Camp Announced

The Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex and Fort Lauderdale Beach will be the home of the 2004 O'Brien Summer Sports Camp, June 14 - August 6.

Under the direction of 2000 U.S. Olympic Coach Tim O'Brien and his staff, these recreational camps will feature a variety of water and beach activities for youth ranging 6 to 15 years of age. Participating campers will be divided into groups based on age and will participate in activities including springboard and platform jumping and diving, snorkeling, volleyball, soccer, flag football, arts and crafts and more. All staff on site are safety certified. Sessions are held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Summer Sports Camp schedule will take place during the following weeks:

Week #1 June 14-18

Week #2 July 5-9

Week #3 July 26-30

Week #4 August 2-6

Arrangements for early drop-off and late pick-up schedules can be made. Camp fees are \$170 per week, plus a one time \$50 registration fee. Discounts are available for those who register more than one child in a session or for those who sign up for multiple sessions. To register, please contact Tim O'Brien at (954) 768-0093 or (954) 562-4115. Campers must be comfortable in water depths that exceed their height. If your child is not comfortable, call the Fort Lauderdale Swim Team offices at (954) 764-4822 to sign up for swim lessons prior to camp.

A Fest of Books To Satisfy All Tastes

Enjoy a variety of authors from romance novelist Marcia King Gamble to children's author Joann Hyppolite, along with more than 40 authors who represent the African Diaspora at the 2nd Annual Pan African Bookfest and Cultural Conference. Beginning April 1st, the event will take place at the African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC), located at 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., and at the 40-acre Rev. Samuel Delevoe Park adjacent to the library. Broward County Libraries and Parks and Recreation Divisions, Broward Public Library Foundation, and QBR/Harlem Book Fair will host the free event that will feature an educational and fun-filled activity for the entire family. Don't miss the exhibition of Jamaican Master Artist Barrington Watson's mural, The Pan Africanist. The mural will be on exhibit at the Broward County African-American Research Library and Cultural Center from April 1st through April 30th. The Cultural Conference runs from April 19th to 22nd. For more information, please call Broward County Main Library Outreach Services at (954) 357-7348.



Join Broward County Main Library For 20th Anniversary

The Broward County Main Library, located at 100 S. Andrews Ave., is celebrating its 20-year anniversary in April, and everyone is invited! This flagship of the Broward County Library system will offer a cocktail party with local authors, a birthday event for children, and a related display at the library at 100 S. Andrews Ave., in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Beginning at 5:30 p.m. on April 2, the cocktail party will feature book signings with authors including: Christine Kling (*Surface Tension, Cross Current*); Eliot Kleinberg (*The Black Cloud: The Great Florida Hurricane of 1928, Weird Florida*) Jeremiah Healy (as Terry Devane, *A Stain Upon the Robe, Juror Number Eleven*); and more. Fee to attend is \$25. Children can feast on birthday cake to celebrate two anniversaries during the free Children's Reading Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 24, and noon to 5 p.m. April 25. This year's festival will also celebrate the 100th anniversary of J. M. Barrie's classic tale of Peter Pan with a weekend of stories, music, magic and more. Throughout April, an exhibit of photos and other memorabilia representing the history of the library will be on display. For more information, call Fort Lauderdale Friends of the Library at (954) 357-7415.

Boating Skills Offered

Flotilla 3-2 of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, located at 601 Seabreeze Blvd., is offering the following courses.

Boating Skills & Seamanship is a three-week course beginning April 14 that teaches the novice and experienced boater about boating safety. Instruction includes boater's language, boat handling, legal requirements, aids to navigation, coastal piloting, radio, weather forecasting and more. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Boating Safely, a one-day boating class that satisfies the National and Florida requirements for recreational boaters will take place on May 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (954) 463-0034.

Note: While we make every effort to include timely information, circumstances occasionally force changes to events listed. Please call the numbers listed prior to attending. Additionally, current events may cause delays in mail delivery of this publication. Should you receive this publication after an event has occurred please accept our apologies.

Air & Sea Show Weekend Set For May 1-2

The McDonald's Air & Sea Show, a two-day extravaganza on Fort Lauderdale beach, will take place May 1-2. As part of the McDonald's National Salute to the U.S. Military, this free event to the public takes place along four miles of Fort Lauderdale beach, with best viewing between Oakland Park Boulevard and Las Olas Boulevard. Enjoy world-class military and civilian air, water and entertainment activities. Saturday performances will begin at 10 a.m. and run until 5 p.m. followed by the Publix Family Night Concert at 7 p.m. Don't miss the Fireworks Extravaganza presented by Colonial Fireworks. Sunday performances run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information, log on to www.national-salute.com.

McDonald's Air & Sea Show Set For May 1-2



Let City Cruiser Give You A Free Ride Pollutant Free



Carbon Monoxide... Hydrocarbons... Nitrogen Oxides - do they really matter? When you breathe them in they do! Ride City Cruiser, Fort Lauderdale's free alternative fuel, clean air shuttle bus service connecting residents and visitors to primary points of interest. With seven routes serving the greater downtown Fort Lauderdale area, the free busses are a great way to get to a local appointment, the courthouse, connect to Broward County Transit mainline routes, Tri-Rail and offices. Even try a new restaurant for lunch or enjoy an evening out without worrying about driving or parking. The possibilities are endless. Every time someone boards a City Cruiser, a car or truck is left stationary - not polluting and not taking up space on city streets. Log onto www.city-cruiser.org for routes, schedules, stops and other information or call (954) 761 - 3543.

Tamara Peacock, 2004 Chair of the Downtown Fort Lauderdale Transportation Management Association and President of The Tamara Peacock Company, Architects boards a City Cruiser for lunch



Visit Fort Lauderdale Online at www.fortlauderdale.gov

Spring is in and while making summer plans, make your hurricane plans a top priority. It's never too early to stock up with nonperishables and have a family plan in place. From June 1st to November 30th, one of the most important decisions Fort Lauderdale residents will face is whether to stay or evacuate when a storm approaches this hurricane season. Experts advise that the decision be made now, well in advance of a storm. Meanwhile, many Fort Lauderdale residents may not have a choice in the matter. If you live in an evacuation zone, here is some helpful information. Hurricane shelters, designated by the American Red Cross, are located in the listing provided below. It is important to keep in mind that pets are not permitted in any shelter. Those persons located in low lying areas or beside tidal bodies of water should seek safety at one of the public shelters listed or a protected dwelling located outside of the evacuation zone. All mobile home residents located in **PLAN A** and **PLAN B** must evacuate as designated below and in the map.

-  **PLAN A** Typically a Category 1-2 hurricane.
-  **PLAN B** Typically a Category 3 or higher hurricane.

- 1) **Lyons Creek Middle School**
4333 Sol Press Blvd., Coconut Creek
- 2) **Tradewinds Elementary School**
5400 Johnson Rd., Coconut Creek
- 3) **Park Trails Elementary School**
10700 Trails End, Parkland
- 4) **Liberty Elementary School**
2450 Banks Rd., Margate
- 5) **Park Lakes Elementary School**
3925 N. State Rd. 7, Lauderdale Lakes
- 6) **Rock Island Elementary School**
2350 NW 19th St., Fort Lauderdale
- 7) **Plantation Elementary School**
651 NW 42nd Ave., Plantation
- 8) **Fox Trail Elementary School**
1250 Nob Hill Rd., Davie
- 9) **Falcon Cove Middle School**
4251 Bonaventure Blvd., Weston
- 10) **Watkins Elementary School**
3520 SW 52nd Ave., Pembroke Park
- 11) **Silver Trail Middle School**
18300 Sheridan St., Pembroke Pines
- 12) **New Renaissance Middle School**
10701 Miramar Blvd., Miramar



Never Too Early For A Hurricane Preparation Plan

City of Fort Lauderdale
Public Information Office
101 N.E. 3rd Ave., Suite 300
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

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